Aviation and circulated to the junior officials as had been alleged. The denial only pertained to this part of the story.

In fact, the press note itself clarified that a comprehensive national policy was under preparation, but it would take some more time to take a concrete shape. It was also stated that there was no rethinking in the Government on the recent Cabinet decision banning the investment of foreign airlines in the domestic sector. A copy of the press note is annexed for ready reference.

PRESS NOTE

A spokesperson of the Ministry of Civil Aviation today denied that ant draft paper on a new civil aviation policy had been circulated by the Secretary (Civil Aviation) among the various officials of the Ministry. There is no rethinking in the Government on the recent Cabinet decision banning the investment of foreign airlines in the domestic sector.

The spokesperson clarified that a comprehensive national civil aviation policy was under preparation, but it would take some more time to take a concrete shape.

मध्य प्रदेश के आदिवासी क्षेत्रों में पर्यटन की संभावना

*96. **श्री अजीत जोगी :**

श्री शमशेर सिंह सूरजेवाला :

क्या पर्यटन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क)क्या सरकार को मध्य प्रदेश के आदिवासी क्षेत्रों में पर्यटन संबंधी विद्यमान संभावनाओं के संबंध में जानकारी हैं,

(ख)क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार इन क्षेत्रों में पर्यटन संबंधी संभावनाओं का उपयोंग करने का विचार रखती हैं,

(ग)यदि हां, तो क्या नौवी पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान इस संबंध में कोई योजना तैयार की गई है,

(घ)इस संबंध में मध्य प्रदेश सरकार से कितने प्रस्ताव प्राप्त हुए है, और

(ड़)नौवी पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा मध्य प्रदेश में पर्यटन के विकास के लिए उठाए जाने वाले कदमों का ब्यौरा क्या हैं ?

संसदीय कार्य मंत्री तथा पर्यटन मंत्री (श्री श्रीकान्त जैना) : (क) जी, हां।

(ख) से (ड़) विनिर्दिष्ट क्षेत्रों की पर्यटन संभाव्यता का अभिनिर्धारण तथा ऐसे क्षेत्रो का विकास करना मुख्य : राज्य सरकारों की जिम्मेदारी हैं। मध्य प्रदेश की राज्य सरकार ने "आदिवासी पर्यटन" के विकास हेतु कोई विशिष्ट योजना नहीं बनाई हैं। राज्य नीति के अनुसार, जातिगत संस्कृति एवं परम्पराओं में विघ्न डाले बगैर आदिवासी क्षेत्रों का विकास आरम्भ किया जाना हैं । अतः आदिवासी क्षेत्रों में पर्यटन संभाव्यता का विकास पूर्णरूप से पंचायत स्तर के संस्थानों के निर्णयों पर निर्भर करेगा।

Request for Devaluation of Rupee by Exporters

*97. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that with the hardening of rupee vis-a-vis US dollar, exporters in the country have asked Government for the devaluation of Indian currency;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the reaction of Government with regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (c) The trade and industry have cited 'hardening of the rupee vis-a-vis the US dollar' as one of the factors affecting exports in many suggestions/demands/points made on various occasions for consideration of the Government.

The exchange rate of the rupee vis-a-vis the US dollar is determined by the market forces of demand and supply and it has remained reasonably stable since July, 1996. The exchange rate developments are monitored continuously both the Government and the Reserve Bank of India. Measures are taken, as and when necessary, to maintain orderly market conditions as well as to ensure that the exchange rate of the rupee remains consistent with economic fundamentals.